



ROCK CREEK PARK PICNIC REGULATIONS

GENERAL RULES

1. The maximum number of picnickers per site is 75.
2. You are responsible for cleaning up after your event. Please bring extra plastic or paper trash bags to the picnic gathering. Place bags of trash in the trash containers or beside the containers if the containers are full. **Please recycle when possible.**
3. Permit holders must furnish their own firewood and/or charcoal. Collection of wood in the park is prohibited. Fires may only be built in the grills provided. Fires may be prohibited during dry seasons.
4. Do not dump spent charcoal or other ash on the ground or in the woods. Place ashes in the existing stone fireplaces or trash receptacles when COMPLETELY extinguished.
5. Do not attach ribbons, posters, balloons or directional signs to any park object, either natural or man-made.
6. Your picnic grove site is subject to inspection by a park ranger and/or US Park Police before and after your gathering. The permit holder is expected to leave the site in clean condition. If not left in satisfactory condition, the National Park Service may recover the cost of cleaning the picnic grove from the permit holder.
7. The permit holder is responsible for any damage to National Park Service property that occurs as a result of the picnic gathering.
8. Commercial activities are prohibited on National Park Service property. Commercial catering is not permitted on park grounds.
9. Solicitation, collection of money and collection of personal information are prohibited on National Park Service property.
10. Parking is permitted in designated paved areas only. Vehicles are prohibited from driving or parking on the grass. The permit holder is responsible for turf damage. Parking is limited within the park and is not guaranteed by this permit. Parking areas are not reserved and must remain open to the public at all times.
11. Tables and benches are not to be moved from one picnic site to another.
12. The permit holder's use of the picnic grove may not interfere with other park visitors' use of nearby playground equipment, parking spaces, restroom facilities, or tables and benches outside the picnic grove area.
13. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited from all park areas administered by Rock Creek Park, except Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Rock Creek Park Golf Course clubhouse and Rock Creek Tennis Stadium.
14. Specialized recreation equipment, mechanical or carnival rides such as moon bounces, rides using livestock, and petting zoos and/or displays using live animals are prohibited in Rock Creek Park.
15. Balloons are prohibited in Rock Creek Park.
16. Electric generators and amplified sound systems at picnics are prohibited.
17. Volleyball and badminton nets are permitted only if they are self-supporting. The nets may not be tied to trees, shrubs, or any other natural or built feature in the park. Supports for the nets may not be driven into the ground. Softball, soccer, kickball and similar activities are permitted in areas adjacent to the picnic groves. However, only temporary goals, bases, backstops and similar activity equipment may be used.
18. Pets must be on a leash and under control at all times. Pets off leash may result in a fine.
19. Tents and canopies are prohibited except where written permission is obtained from the Superintendent.

Failure to observe the above regulations and additional Park regulations attached to this permit may result in a citation and/or permit revocation.

TRAVEL

20. Except on federal holidays, Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway traffic is one way southbound from 6:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on weekdays. Also, except for federal holidays, Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway traffic is one way northbound from 3:45 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. on weekdays. The parkway has two-way traffic at all other times, including weekends.
21. Beach Drive between Military Road and Broad Branch Road is closed to cars from 7:00 a.m. Saturday through 7:00 p.m. Sunday, as well as 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. on federal holidays. Use caution on weekends, driving on Beach Road between Military Road and picnic grove 10, as many other park visitors use this section for bicycling, hiking, walking, jogging and skating.

SAFETY

22. Bees and other stinging insects are most active from July through October. Cover all food, including drinks. Avoid wearing cologne or perfume or using scented lotions or shampoos. It is recommended that you wear neutral-colored clothing.
23. Obey all safety regulations and posted signs in Rock Creek Park. Do not approach any wild animals or any unfamiliar domestic animals.
24. Do not walk on the dam or fish ladder at Peirce Mill.
25. Supervise children using playground equipment. Report vandalism, damaged equipment or safety concerns to the Park Superintendent's office at (202) 895-6004 weekdays 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. In an emergency, contact U.S. Park Police at (202) 610-7500.

BILLS FOR DAMAGE

26. The permit holder is responsible for any damages to government property or for any costs incurred by the National Park Service or U.S. Park Police resulting from the permit holder's event. The National Park Service will issue a Bill of Collection for costs incurred due to vandalism, negligence or other actions by a permitted group or individuals in the group.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, BUSES AND TRUCKS

27. Commercial vehicles, buses and trucks are prohibited on all park roads without a permit. Permits can be obtained by contacting the park headquarters at 202-895-6013 or by writing:

Rock Creek Park
Attn: Special Use Permits
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Groups that will be transported by bus may only reserve picnic groves 1 and 24, which are served by wider city streets that can accommodate oversized vehicles. Buses traveling to grove 1 must enter and leave via Connecticut Avenue and Tilden Street. Buses traveling to grove 24 must enter and leave via the 16th and Colorado Avenue entrance to the Carter Barron Amphitheatre parking lots.